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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
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Item 8 (a) of the provisional agenda

QUESTION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF ALL PERSONS SUBJECTED TO ANY FORM OF DETENTION OR IMPRISONMENT, IN PARTICULAR:

TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL, INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

GE.98-10844 (E)

Introduction

1. The present addendum supplements and updates the information communicated at the fifty-second session of the Commission on Human Rights, which is contained in the annual report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly (A/52/387) and in the annual report of the Secretary-General to the Commission on Human Rights (E/CN.4/1998/37).

Payment of grants decided upon in 1997

2. A sum of $160,000 decided on in 1997 under pending grants was paid to 15 projects for assistance to victims of torture for which additional information had been requested by the Board of Trustees and the secretariat.

New contributions received

3. The following contributions have been received and grants paid since 19 December 1997.

State	Contribution in United States dollars	Date	For year	Number of previous contributions
Algeria	5 000	20/01/98	1998	5
Belgium	82 487	05/02/98	1997	7
Canada	17 099	12/02/98	1998	14
Cyprus	945	18/02/98	1998	9
Denmark	288 830	24/02/98	1998	15
Finland	186 986	22/12/87	1997	14
Malta	1 500	12/01/98	1997	3
Monaco	10 810	30/01/98	1997	3
Netherlands	36 914	08/01/98	1997	17
Senegal	974	13/02/98	1998	1
Switzerland	30 822	22/01/98	1997	9
Tunisia	1 541	16/12/97	1997	6
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	51 621	21/01/98	1997	7
"	11 667	26/02/98	1998	8

The contribution of $8,888 paid to the Fund by South Africa on 31 March 1996 through the UNDP office in Pretoria was actually received by the United Nations Cashier's Office on 31 May 1996.

Cash requirements before May 1998

4. The contributions received since the last session of the Board of Trustees currently total $2 million, while requests received for grants amount to around $7 million, as in 1997. Hence the Fund is $5 million short of the amount needed to meet all the requests. Pledges totalling $2,974,952 have been made by the 15 States listed below. As requested by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 1997/38, the High Commissioner has reminded these Governments that their contributions should be paid before 11 May 1998, the date of the next meeting of the Board of Trustees. Contributions received after that date will be processed by the Board of Trustees only at its next session, in May 1999.

State	Amount in United States dollars	Date of pledge	Number of the contribution
Andorra	5 000	04/11/97	4
Austria	20 000	04/11/97	15
Brazil	10 000	20/12/94	5
"	10 000	02/11/95	6
"	10 000	04/11/97	7
Chile	10 000	04/11/97	6
Germany	116 279	04/11/97	21
Greece	10 300	04/11/97	15
Iceland	5 952	04/11/97	12
Italy	463 768	24/10/97	6
Liechtenstein	7 143	04/11/97	10
Luxembourg	22 535	04/11/97	15
Monaco	8 711	04/11/97	5
Netherlands	515 464	04/11/97	17
Philippines	10 000	04/11/97	3
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	49 800	25/02/98	8
United States of America	1 500 000	04/12/97	
TOTAL	2 774 952		

Project funding cycle

5. Following the session of the Board, the recommendations concerning grants are approved by the High Commissioner for Human Rights, on behalf of the Secretary-General, in June. Payments to organizations are made in July following approval by the Budget Service. The organizations must then submit, before 31 December, a narrative report and a financial report on the use to which the grants have been put. They must transmit a new request for funding to the secretariat before that date if they wish to benefit from Fund support during the following year.

6. Many of the projects supported by the Fund also receive grants from the European Union. However, the EU has adopted new guidelines under which grants are paid only in December. This increases the organizations' dependence on the United Nations Fund in order to start up their projects during the year. Hence it is of prime importance that contributions to the Fund are paid each year before the session of the Board of Trustees so that the Fund is in a position to respond to growing demand for assistance, and so that there is no break in the programme of assistance to victims.